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Memorial Address of Hon.
Wm. B. Bate upon the
Life and character of
Hon. Isham G. Harris.
1898.

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MEMORIAL ADDRESS

BY

HON. WM. B. BATE,

OF TENNESSEE,

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UPON THE LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

HON. ISHAM G. HARRIS

(Late a Senator from the State of Tennessee),

DELIVERED IN THE

SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

MARCH 24, 1898.

WASHINGTON.
1898.

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Mr. W. A. Smith

REMARKS BY SENATOR BATE

IN

ANNOUNCING TO THE SENATE THE DEATH OF HIS COLLEAGUE,

SENATOR ISHAM G. HARRIS.

July 9, 1897.

Mr. BATE. Mr. President, it becomes my painful duty this morning to announce to the Senate the death of my colleague, and as a mark of respect I shall at the proper time make a motion for an adjournment, and will at some future time ask that a day be set apart specially for tributes to be delivered by Senators on his life and character.

A conspicuous figure, Mr. President, and a familiar one, identified as an active and influential factor in the history of this Chamber and of the country, is no longer one of us. ISHAM GREEN HARRIS for more than twenty years sat in this Chamber as a Senator from Tennessee, and for the last ten years it has been my honor and pleasure to be associated with him as his colleague. He died last evening at his residence in sight of this Capitol at an advanced age, an age, however, which he ever kept green and bright and buoyant until prostrated by his recent illness. Tennessee and the entire country mourn his loss.

The individual man and his personal characteristics are abundantly known to Senators who surround me, as they are to Tennesseans and to the general constituency. He closed last evening a long career of usefulness to the country, especially to his native State of Tennessee, which honored him with her highest official gifts and in turn has been honored by him.

He was a man of ideas, with high qualities of leadership and statesmanship, with courage to assert and ability to maintain them. His devotion to duty, as he conceived it, and its faithful and fearless discharge inspired confidence and friendship, while it often disarmed opposition. The benefit of his ripe experience and extended information as to the affairs of Government is lost

to us. His familiarity with parliamentary usage and his preeminence as a presiding officer make his loss the more keenly felt by the Senate. His honest, earnest, and incisive mode of debate and his ready, emphatic, and accurate manner of deciding questions as presiding officer, will not pass away, but will live in the memory of Senators and in the history of the country.

Mr. President, Senator HARRIS belonged to that class of historic characters in this country known as "war governors." He is the last but one of that class upon either side, North or South, who took an active participation and presided over a sovereign State during that interstate struggle.

He was not, because he was governor, an active Confederate soldier in its strictest sense; but all his nature and all his sympathies were enlisted upon the Confederate side.

He was the governor of a strong and mighty State which furnished numbers of troops for the Confederate cause. They were organized under his administration. He could not, being governor of the State, enter the ranks or be sworn into the service by enlistment. He could not take that course, but nevertheless he was a live, active, influential factor in all that concerned the movement of Tennessee and of the Confederacy in that great war. He was present and as voluntary aid took part in all our great battles.

His life has been an eventful one, his history a noted one, and it will live after him. I need not speak of him here in this Chamber. Those who surround me knew him and understood his peculiarities, his personalities. He had them, and he had them in a generous way, and he always exercised them with a proper feeling and in a generous manner.

We may forget many things that transpired here, and some characters who have gone the way that he has gone; but, Mr. President, Senators will not forget the peculiar manner of expression that belonged to him, with his clear, straightforward, direct, and incisive speech on all occasions, without deviation. No man ever misunderstood what he meant, and no one will forget that peculiar emphasis which was his. Neither will anyone in this Senate forget that promptness and readiness with which he always decided questions when he was in the chair. Such was his history here, and it will not only live in our memories, but it will belong to the political history of this country.

But he is gone. He is no longer one of us. On yesterday evening the summons came. The clouds seemed to surround him. All his nature, as it were, his past life, came before me when I understood that he was dying. I remembered him in my young manhood when he was first governor of Tennessee. I remembered him later on as the Confederate war governor of my State, when he heard the first reveille and the last tattoo in Confederate camps. I remembered him through the good and evil fortune of our Southland, ever vigilant and ready to further the cause he had espoused—and that his cause was my cause—and in his dying hour my pulse beat a warm sympathy and my heart went out in reverence for the grand old veteran.

But he is gone. Yesterday evening, a few minutes before 6 o'clock, the summons came. The shadows of death spread over him as a dark cloud; the curfew tolled the knell of his departing day; the soothing sound of "taps" invited sleep to the worn and weary veteran; he entered his silent tent; he sleeps there now on Fame's eternal camping ground.

Mr. President, I shall move to adjourn at the proper time, but meanwhile I will ask for the consideration of the resolutions which I send to the desk to be read.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The resolutions submitted by the Senator from Tennessee will be read.

The resolutions were read, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. ISHAM G. HARRIS, late a Senator from the State of Tennessee.

Resolved, That a committee of nine Senators be appointed by the Vice-President to take order for superintending the funeral of Mr. HARRIS, which shall take place in the Senate Chamber, at 12 o'clock m. to-morrow, and that the Senate will attend the same.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect entertained by the Senate for his memory his remains be removed from Washington to Tennessee in charge of the Sergeant-at-Arms, and attended by the committee, who shall have full power to carry this resolution into effect.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these proceedings to the House of Representatives and invite the House of Representatives to attend the funeral in the Senate Chamber, and to appoint a committee to act with the committee of the Senate.

The resolutions were considered by unanimous consent, and agreed to.

MEMORIAL ADDRESS ON THE LATE SENATOR ISHAM G. HARRIS.

Delivered in the Senate March 24, 1898.

Mr. BATE. Mr. President, the hour set apart for the Senatorial ceremonies in memory of my late colleague, Senator HARRIS, has arrived, and I offer the resolutions which I send to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PASCO). The resolutions submitted by the Senator from Tennessee will be read.

The Secretary read the resolutions, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. ISHAM G. HARRIS, late a Senator from the State of Tennessee.

Resolved, That, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the business of the Senate be now suspended to enable his associates to pay proper tribute of regard to his high character and distinguished public services.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

Resolved, That as an additional mark of respect, the Senate, at the conclusion of these ceremonies, do adjourn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

Mr. BATE. Mr. President, to my late distinguished colleague on this floor all the honors due to the most illustrious citizen have been paid by the officials of Tennessee and by the spontaneous affection of the citizens of the State. His body, by general and public request, lay in state in the capitol of Tennessee, escorted and guarded by old ex-Confederate soldiers, who stood sentinel around his bier under the two flags—Confederate and Federal.

The memorial services on a later day at Memphis, the home of the late Senator HARRIS, were of that character which attest the love and esteem in which he was held by the people of Tennessee. On that occasion the drapery of woe gave place to the beauty of flowers, and the vast auditorium bloomed and blossomed with the festoons of smilax and chrysanthemums, while palms of ancient and sacred memory vied with roses in giving grace and beauty to a scene which bore evidence of a purpose on the part of the whole community to unite in a grand testimonial to the honored dead.

Representative men, the rich and the poor, were there, and every creed in religion as well as every division in politics united in one testimonial to the memory of the citizen, the "war gov-

ernor," and statesman who had passed away. Nothing which affection could suggest or pride propose was omitted by that community which he had served and in which he had so long resided.

The glimmer of the old gray uniform on the Confederate veterans on this memorial occasion recalled the glory of the past without in the least derogating from the duties of the present. He had worn that uniform with honor in the camp, on the march, on the battlefield, and it was appropriate that a conspicuous place should be filled by it in the memorial service of his past life. The proud emblems of the Federal Union were not absent, but floated gracefully along with the modest little ensign that bore the cross of St. Andrew, with its stars and bars.

It was a fit occasion for intertwining the two flags, and it was tastefully and gracefully done. Notwithstanding these honors so profusely paid by the authorities of Tennessee and of the city of Memphis and of all classes of the people, an honored custom of this Senate invites further posthumous ceremonies within its historic walls which have so often reverberated his voice. This Chamber for more than twenty years was the theater of his usefulness, the same in which he played that conspicuous part in the public history which will be forever associated with his memory. It is appropriate that here, then, in this Chamber official recognition of his prominent services to the Union and to the State should have voice and recognition.

I ask the attention of Senators while I briefly relate the story of a man—their fellow—who is gone.

Mr. President, ISHAM GREEN HARRIS was born in Franklin County, Tenn., on the 10th of February, 1818, and died in this city on the 8th of July, 1897, having attained the ripe age of 80 years, fulfilling the words of the psalmist that "the days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away."

Little did the neighbors and friends of the Harris family, who lived in an unostentatious but independent way among the plain and patriotic people of Franklin County, Tenn., dream that on the 10th of February, 1818, there was born in their midst a child who was destined to be a leading factor in stirring events that

were to come to our country's history—one who was to organize troops to fight great battles—was three times to occupy the executive chair of our great State and sit twenty years in the chief council chamber of our great country as one of its advisers and leaders. There was no special announcement of his birth by the parents or any special recognition of it given by the neighbors or the church. It nevertheless was one that has gone into history and will live beyond the present generation into the far future.

Isham and Lucy Harris, the father and mother of this the youngest of nine children, were North Carolinians and of Revolutionary stock. Isham's grandfather was an officer in the Revolutionary war. The father and mother, leaving the Old North State, seeking fresher fields in which to better their fortunes, journeyed westward over the mountains and settled where the waters of Elk River flow through a beautiful valley overlooked by the western range of the Cumberland Mountains. It was here, on a farm in Franklin County, Tenn., that these pioneer parents in a plain and frugal way reared and educated their children.

The log-house home and country schoolhouse were familiar features in that day, and to-day Tennessee points to them, through the brightest pages of her history, with greater pride than can any king point to his palace or any scholar to his university alma mater, for these unpretending homes and schools were the sources of that great intellectual, moral, and political strength that made heroes and statesmen of her sons and gave an unsurpassed charm to her womanhood.

But this monotonous and narrow sphere of social and business life, though with many attractions, was too circumscribed for young ambition to vault itself, and the subject of this tribute, at the early age of 14, with only a country-school education, full of manhood and self-reliance, with a heart throbbing with courageous impulses and a brain restless and full of resources—this boy-man, ISHAM GREEN HARRIS, with the consent and blessing of his father, for whom he was named, launched his little lifeboat, freighted with his hopes and fortune, on the uncertain sea of the future.

Leaving home at this unripe age, he went west to Paris, Henry County, Tenn., which became his future home. By way of being independent of the assistance of friends, he hired himself as a merchant's clerk, beginning at the bottom with a small salary.

By strict attention to business, performing every duty with alacrity and guided by that conspicuous executive ability that characterized all his life, he soon found himself at the head of an establishment of his own and conducted it with eminent success.

After having undergone varied fortune in the commercial line, meantime having matured into manhood, he entered upon the profession of the law, and soon showed his aptness in and his adaptability to his profession. But while he was successful in securing a clientage and was strict in attention to the business intrusted to him, he was dreaming of the future, and saw, as in an apocalyptic vision, another field of service in which distinction united with destiny.

His taste and capacity fitted him preeminently for this new field, and his natural political sagacity and patriotic fervor beckoned him on. The future opened its portals, and ambition, as a seductive siren, drew him in her charmed circle of delirium as naturally as iron filings are drawn to loadstone. Henceforth the political field was to him most congenial, and it became the arena in which was performed the life drama of ISHAM GREEN HARRIS. Six years of successful practice of law brought unto him not only a handsome income, but established for him a reputation as a lawyer, and more especially as an advocate. This threw him actively into the political world, and in 1847 he was honored with a seat in the senatorial branch of the Tennessee legislature.

There his aptitude for successful management in political matters entitled him to leadership, which brought him so conspicuously before the public as a Democrat that in 1848 he was selected as the Democratic elector for the Ninth Congressional district, to be followed in 1849 by his election from that district to the United States House of Representatives. After serving that district through two successive Congresses, and being renominated the third time, he declined to accept the nomination and moved to Memphis, where he was recognized as a lawyer and advocate of ability, and as such took high rank at that bar, then, as now, distinguished for the ability of its members.

But political preferment and leadership being his ruling passion, and politics being the natural field for the exercise of his fine powers, he again, in 1856, came to the front as elector at large for the Democratic party. Those who recall that exciting politi-

cal campaign and the issues involved, and remember that his immediate opponent was the able and distinguished Governor Neil S. Brown, a foeman worthy of any man's steel, will recognize it as a contest between evenly matched knights, and which attracted the attention of the whole State.

His speeches on the hustings were plain, clear, and cogent, severely without ornament, and without strain at eloquence or display, but always sensible, strong, attractive, and sometimes dramatic. In delivery he was earnest and forcible, and alike emphatic in expression and gesture. Indeed, this grew upon him with age until the emphatic seemed the dogmatic. In speaking he always had a definite point to drive to, and he let you know what it was, and generally got there in good time and in good order.

With the triumph of his party in that campaign, Tennessee took rank among Democratic States, and his rich reward was a nomination and election, in 1857, as governor of the State. In this, his first canvass for governor, he had for his opponent Hon. Robert Hatton, the nominee of the opposing party, who was young, active, and talented, and it being the custom of Tennessee to have joint discussions between opposing party candidates, they canvassed the State together. HARRIS was elected. He was renominated in 1859, with John Netherland, a bright, talented man and famous stump orator, as his opponent. HARRIS was again elected.

His third election as governor was in August, 1861, after the State had united her fortunes with the Southern States and war was flagrant. Under the constitution of Tennessee the governor is elected for a term of two years, and remains in office until his successor is inaugurated, and this inauguration is required to be at the capitol and in the presence of the legislature. At the expiration of HARRIS's third term the capitol was within the Federal lines—hence there could be no inauguration, and HARRIS held over to the end of the war.

These renominations and successful canvasses show the hold he had gained and retained in the confidence and affection of the people of the whole State. His three canvasses for governor, together with performing the duties of the office, brought out those remarkable traits of character which made him conspicuous among the leaders of his party. He had by nature fine executive ability, which was strengthened by culture and habit. This executive

quality was aided by an unflagging energy, which in turn was driven by a force of will that often overcame obstacles that were hard to surmount.

Along with those, he had another gift or quality that was in evidence all along his line of life, and which contributed largely to his success. It is a species of diplomacy called in common parlance "tact;" that is, he instinctively knew better when and how to accomplish an object than other men. This was to a great extent the result of his thorough and accurate knowledge of human nature. His great lever power, however, that sustained him in seeking official preferment and maintaining himself was his Jeffersonian faith in the people—faith in their doing right when the right is understood by them—and his undeviating adherence to what he believed to be their rights and interests.

Governor HARRIS belonged to the strict-construction school of politics. That school of construction was originated by Jefferson and Madison as a counterpoise to the growing tendency of Federal consolidation and as a force to bring back the Government from the centralization of the alien and sedition acts to the original object of its creation, the Federal agent of the sovereign States that created it.

It was afterwards illustrated by the genius of Calhoun and adorned with the abilities and virtues of Southern statesmen, and for many years had a grasp upon the people of the South which only the mailed hand of fratricidal war could tear away.

To that school of construction Governor HARRIS conscientiously attached himself.

Whatever others may think of that theory of our Government, to ISHAM G. HARRIS it was the gospel of his politics, the creed that formulated his political convictions, and to it he was as true as the needle to the pole.

State sovereignty and its resultant, the right of secession, were with him conscientious convictions, as sacred and binding as his belief in human existence. As governor it was his duty to take care that the State suffer no detriment, and to that end, when trouble and danger were in sight, he summoned the legislature in extra session, that a convention of the people of the State might take such action as their wisdom should dictate. It would serve no good purpose to review in this place the able messages in which

he discussed the public conditions, the attitude of sections, and the ultimate purposes of political parties.

It is sufficient to say that he was no fanatic, but a calm, resolute, earnest, and honest man in a place of great responsibility; and with the courage of his convictions he met the public conditions by which his State was menaced with the only remedy that was provided in the theory of Federal Union as he understood that theory. Yea, many will say he and those of us who sustained him were wrong; but there can be none who knew him as I and those who stood by him in that great crisis did who can truthfully assert that he was not honest in his convictions and earnest in his work.

In the days of 1861 public events shaped themselves with a rapidity and suddenness which it is difficult to comprehend now, and not edifying to review on this floor. There is one incident, however, that occurred at this juncture between the governor of Tennessee and the President of the United States that can not with propriety be omitted in giving the leading features of Governor HARRIS's life.

Excitement for weeks over the whole country had been intense, and culminated in the fall of Fort Sumter, whereupon President Lincoln called for 75,000 troops to coerce the seceded States, and in the call designated two regiments to come from Tennessee, and asked Governor HARRIS to furnish them. The reply was promptly returned by the governor of Tennessee to the President in the following words:

> Tennessee will not furnish a single man for the purpose of coercion, but 50,000, if necessary, for the defense of our rights and those of our Southern brethren.

There are many personal and official incidents connected with Governor HARRIS that would be interesting to know, but I forbear giving them, except the following one, illustrative of his high appreciation of the duty of an official in caring for the public interest intrusted to him: There was a large sum of money, nearly a million dollars in gold, in the custody of the State, known as "the school fund," when, on the approach of the Federal Army to the capital of Tennessee, Governor HARRIS had this fund, among other effects of the State, sent south. He regarded it as a sacred fund, and on no account would permit it to be used. Under his orders it was moved from place to place as military lines shifted, and kept

secure. When war scenes were dissolving and he going into exile, he directed its honest keepers to return it to the State authorities, which was done without the loss of a dollar.

It is my purpose only to present Governor HARRIS in his true character, that of a resolute, firm man, discharging every duty from a high sense of responsibility to the State and her people, indifferent to every personal consequence and solicitous only for the safety of the State and the protection of her people. To that end, when all hopes of continued peace vanished before the President's call for troops to invade the Southern States, Governor HARRIS bent every energy of his character and exerted every resource of the State to the organization and equipment of her volunteers; and so well did he work in those precarious days that by July, 1861, he had organized and equipped thousands of troops, turning them over to the Confederate authorities.

He relaxed no effort in the defense of the State, but with untiring energy continued his efforts to place the State in a condition to be defended by her own people as well as by the armies of the Confederate States. His example as governor was inspiring to all the people, infusing energy everywhere and bringing order out of confusion, until under his administration, which was during the entire war, over 100,000 Tennessee soldiers, as gallant and patriotic troops as ever mustered under battle flag, had enlisted and had been as well equipped as could be under the existing conditions and completely organized in the armies of the Confederate States, and thus he earned the well merited, and to him the most highly prized, sobriquet of the "War Governor of Tennessee."

When driven by the events of the war from the State and it was no longer possible for him to discharge the duties of the exalted office, he rested not, nor sought easy berth, but immediately entered the field on the staff of Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston, and was with him on the field of Shiloh and personally assisted that great chieftain at the time he received his death shot.

With the Army of Tennessee, under all its commanders, he served through all the years of the war, exerting every effort to mitigate the hardships of the soldiers, to supply the necessities of their daily life, and sharing with them the sunshine and the storm, the heat and the cold, the joy of victory and the sting of defeat.

Though not technically in the Confederate army, for he could not be, as he was governor of Tennessee, he was in fact its inseparable companion from beginning to end, and heard its first reveille and its last tattoo. He was emphatically the friend of the soldiers and omitted nothing that could contribute to their comfort or increase their efficiency. After the war, with all its disappointments, losses, and distress, the people of Tennessee still treasure in their hearts the sacred memory of their heroic soldiers.

When all the blandishments of life are gone,
* * * the brave live on.

All else seemed gone, under the inscrutable wisdom of an all-wise Providence, but the manhood of those four years. In all the noblest acceptation of that word, it is a precious heirloom to Confederates, to be transmitted from sire to son. Of that manhood Governor HARRIS was a living example, in its administrative feature, in its brave devotion to duty, in its unselfish attention to the wants of others, and in its bravery and endurance on the field of battle, and also in exacting demands in bivouac, march, and hospital.

The history of ISHAM G. HARRIS is inseparably connected with our war period. He was then in the prime of life and in the zenith of his power. He was governor during the entire time, from 1861–1865, of a sovereign State, mighty in those effective elements of war, men and resources. It was an ill-starred destiny that came upon our country and brought a four-years carnival of suffering and death.

When the bloodshot eye of Mars looked down upon the scene, it was "red with uncommon wrath," and the smile of mercy appeased it not. Ours was then a land of armed men, brothers fighting each other. Destruction and death was the order of the day. Every march was to a battlefield, and every battlefield was a graveyard. Defeat of to-day gave earnest of victory to-morrow, while victory to-morrow meant defeat the next day. It was a struggle between giants, as fierce and unrelenting as that between Saracen and Crusader over the Holy Sepulcher when the battle-ax of Cœur de Lion found its death-producing counterpart in the magic blade of Saladin.

It was in these times that the subject of this tribute was at the

helm, steering a mighty State through the crimson tide of war. But with peace there came not rest to his weary spirit. The triumph of the Union Army admitted of no magnanimity for him. The fierce passions of politics interposed to drive him into exile. The trumped-up charge of treason to the State, the State he had so courageously defended, was set in motion, and, with a reward for his capture, he was driven to seek safety in Mexico and there await a returning sense of shame to his persecutors.

From Mexico to England was for him a change from enforced idleness to that business activity so necessary to his energetic and ever-working nature. One year in business in Liverpool completed the two and a half years of exile, during which all charges were abandoned and rewards withdrawn, and he was free to return to the State and people he had served so faithfully and loved so well. A period of eight years followed with a successful practice of the law, during which the clouds of political animosities were being gradually dispelled and the people had become free to exercise their right of selecting their Representatives and Sentors.

Governor HARRIS became a candidate and was elected by the legislature to the Senate of the United States, where from 1877 to 1897, a period of over twenty years, he was the zealous and faithful ambassador of Tennessee to this Amphictyonic Council of sovereign States.

This Senate too well remembers my colleague for me to recall the weighty words, the impressive manner, the forcefulness in colloquy, the ready retort, the executive ability, tact, and discretion, the parliamentary management, the courtesy that ever characterized him in the chair—for he had been chosen its temporary presiding officer—the firmness with which he maintained his convictions, and the triumph he won.

His was a green and fresh old age. His eyes were not dim and lusterless, nor was his natural force much abated. He was never a better or more useful Senator nor more attentive and efficient to his duties than in the later years of his life. Age seemed only to have brought ripened experience with its advantages which he made available.

He was generally in his seat and always a watcher, even in weary nights when obstructive legislation was rampant. When

younger men were inattentive and sought sleep, he, regardless of age, was awake and vigilant and ready for any turn in the game of political diplomacy that was going on, and generally took on such occasions a leading and effective part in all discussions pertaining to the rules of the Senate and parliamentary proceedings. Indeed he felt, and it came to be so regarded in the Senate, that debate on parliamentary proceedings was *his* fight, for he was the admitted authority on parliamentary law in the body.

Mr. President, Governor HARRIS lived in an eventful age. No eighty years of human action has brought to light so many useful discoveries and such great results. The map of the world has been changed during the period of his life. Empires have appeared and passed away like bubbles on the surface of the lake.

Continents that were comparatively vacant have become the abode of powerful States, peopled by intelligent inhabitants that enjoy all the advantages of a high civilization. At his birth this Republic was all east of the Mississippi; at his death the tide of population had crossed the Rocky Mountains and built powerful States and splendid cities on the Pacific. What at his birth was the American desert has become the abode of freemen, and enterprising communities now cheer the dreary wastes.

No railroad was then found on this continent, nor was it traversed by thousands of miles in which the traveler scales the lofty mountains and passes over the great rivers in splendid parlor cars, where his meals are served and he reposes on his downy bed while he spins along over wonderful scenery at the rate of 40 miles an hour. At his birth no scientist dreamed that each day's proceeding would be distributed through the world with a speed that far outstrips the earth in her daily revolutions around her axis. Yet the lightning has become the great agent of humanity to distribute its messages, propel its cars, and heat its habitations. The telephone is the faithful agent that repeats the human voice scores of miles.

The year after his birth the first steamship crossed the Atlantic. Now every ocean is stirred by the swift messengers of nations in peace and war. The world of mind and morals has been evolving new theories of thought and new rules of social and spiritual life. The activity of human genius has brought out new creations in

every department of utility. Ancient institutions have given place to new and more refined and delicate ones.

The wonders of art have outstripped the wildest visions of dreaming fancy and given to human achievement boundless possibilities, that may cover the earth with charities and blessings, that will wipe away all tears and lull into sweet harmony the sighs and sorrows of the human race.

Amid this wonderful impulse of human action this distinguished man has lived and acted and enrolled his name.

Mr. President, when the end came to those eighty years of arduous life, when the golden bowl was broken, and the silver cord was loosed, and the pitcher broken at the fountain, it could be truthfully said of my colleague that "he died at his post." If not like Chatham falling on the floor of the House of Lords, or John Quincy Adams sinking in the House of Representatives, yet he succumbed from the exertion and the labor of his Senatorial duties like the great English leader and the exalted American ex-President.

The unswerving patriot, ISHAM G. HARRIS, whose long life had been devoted to his country, had striven to the end, and his last days were his best days.

He is now in his grave—

After life's fitful fever he sleeps well.

Neither the call to the hustings, the concourse of admiring friends, the contests in the Senate, nor "the rapture of the fight" shall again summon him to duty. His repose is tranquil in the sacred precincts of Elmwood, overlooking in its beauty and silence the Mississippi as it swells in majestic flow at the base of Memphis, the beautiful city of the valley. Peace to his ashes.

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